

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

S E C R E T STATE 080512

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: JA, VN, VS, LA, CB

SUBJECT: JAPAN AND VIETNAM

REFS: A) STATE 068201

B) TOKYO 5165 NOTAL

C) TOKYO 5166 NOTAL

D) TOKYO 5167 NOTAL

E) TOKYO 5168 NOTAL

1. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR USHIBA APRIL 26 CALLED ON
UNDER SECRETARY PORTER TO INFORM USG CONCERNING RECENT
VISIT TO HANOI BY JAPANESE FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL
MIYAKE. USHIBA' S BRIEFING DIFFERED IN NO SIGNIFICANT
RESPECT FROM INFO CONTAINED IN EMBASSY TOKYO' S
TELEGRAMS REFERRED TO ABOVE.

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2. PORTER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THIS INFORMATION AND NOTED IT APPARENT MIYAKE TOOK FIRM AND REASONABLE LINE WHEN DESCRIBING JAPANESE CURRENT POLICY TOWARD NORTH VIETNAM AND ANY BASIS FOR CHANGE.

3. PORTER SAID THAT RECENT US MOVES SUCH AS STOPPING MINESWEEPING AND WITHDRAWING CHIEF NEGOTIATOR FROM PARIS INTENDED SEND HANOI MESSAGES. US DISTRESSED AT NVN ACTIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, AND LAOS. LAOS SITUATION SOMEWHAT BETTER, SINCE MILITARY ACTIVITIES AT LOW LEVEL, BUT NVN FOLLOWERS IN LAOS NOT PARTICIPATING IN GOVERNMENT.

4. PORTER SAID NVN ACTION IN LAOS PERHAPS RELATED TO CAMBODIA SITUATION. LAOS AGREEMENT PROVIDES NVN FORCES WITHDRAW WHEN GOVERNMENT FORMED. HOWEVER, NVN ALREADY OBLIGED WITHDRAW UNDER ARTICLE 20 OF VIETNAM AGREEMENT. PERHAPS NVN DELAY IN LAOS DUE TO THEIR CONTINUED OPERATIONS IN CAMBODIA.

5. PORTER SAID NVN SEEMED TO HAVE GOTTEN SIGNAL SENT THEM BY WITHDRAWAL US MINESWEEPERS AND CHIEF NEGOTIATOR FROM PARIS TALKS. NVN HAVE REGISTERED DISPLEASURE AT US ACTIONS AND AGREED THAT AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN SHOULD MEET IN PARIS WITH THACH, FOLLOWED AS NEEDED BY A MEETING BETWEEN DR. KISSINGER AND LE DUC THO.

6. PORTER SAID US AIM IS TO GET NVN OBSERVANCE OF PARIS AGREEMENT. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PROPOSE HUMANITARIAN OR RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM FOR NVN WHILE NVN VIOLATIONS CONTINUE.

7. PORTER SAID QUESTION OF GOJ ENTERING INTO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NVN FOR GOJ TO DECIDE. USG IS EXPLAINING WHAT WE ARE DOING TO BRING ABOUT PEACE AND STABILITY IN INDO- CHINA AND HOPES GOJ AND OTHER FRIENDS WILL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION POSSIBLE ENCOURAGING EFFECT ON HANOI VIOLATIONS SHOULD THEY
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GAIN DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF IMPORTANT GOVERNMENTS.

8. NOTING USG LACKS HARD INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT, PORTER OBSERVED THAT NVN BUREAUCRACY CONCERNED WITH ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION AND OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH PROMOTING POLITICAL AIMS MIGHT NOT BE IN STEP. AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN AND DR. KISSINGER WILL STRIVE TO MAKE CLEAR OUR POLICIES TO NVN NEGOTIATORS, PARTICULARLY POLITBURO MEMBER LE DUC THO. SULLIVAN

ALREADY IN PARIS. WE HAVE NO PLANS TO SEND ANYONE TO HANOI UNTIL THE SITUATION PROGRESSES TO THE POINT OF VIEWING POSSIBLE ECONOMIC PROGRAMS THERE TO WHICH WE MIGHT CONTRIBUTE.

9. USHIBA SAID GOJ VIEW OF SITUATION IS IDENTICAL.

10. PORTER SAID USG READY TO COOPERATE WITH NVN IN ECONOMIC AREA WHEN MVN INDICATE THEY ARE READY BY OBSERVING PARIS ACCORDS. GVN HAS COME OUT WITH SPECIFIC PROGRAM FOR POLITICAL PROGRESS, INCLUDING TIMETABLE FOR ELECTIONS IN SOUTH. HOWEVER, PRG HAS STILL NOT FORMALLY RESPONDED AND GVN AWAITS PRG AGREEMENT TO

MEET AGAIN IN PARIS.

11. AMBASSADOR USHIBA SAID GOJ IMPRESSION IS THAT PRG IS DISORGANIZED BODY. PORTER SAID PRG LEADERSHIP INVISIBLE. PRG NO LONGER TALKS ABOUT ELECTIONS BECAUSE THEY FEEL THEY LACK STANDING IN SOUTH VIETNAM. PRG AFRAID TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS IN WHICH THEY WOULD WIN A HUMILIATINGLY SMALL NUMBER OF SEATS IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WHICH WOULD NOT PROVIDE THEM WITH A BASE FOR FUTURE ATTEMPTS TO GAIN POWER.

12. USHIBA SAID JAPANESE AMBASSADOR SAIGON RETURNING TO TOKYO FOR DELIBERATIONS ON GOJ/ VN POLICIES AND USHIBA WOULD INFORM PORTER OF RESULTS. PORTER SAID HE WOULD CONTINUE TO KEEP USHIBA INFORMED OF USG/ NVN DISCUSSIONS AT PARIS.

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